

Lamoine Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2010 (Draft, Subject to Correction)

Present were: Susan Tardif, Bob Christie, Rob Liebow, Leah Treadwell, David Henry, Brett Jones, Connie and Rick Wallace, Tom Duym, Griff Fenton

LAC: Gordon Donaldson, Priscilla Hukki, Bonnie Marckoon, Tammy Dickey, Jon Morren

Excused: Val Perkins

Meeting called to order at 6:33p.m

I. Review agenda Reviewed agenda added budget and principal issues

II. Communication Report

a. Principal Report Jon read Mr. Perkins prepared report to the group.

b. Chair LAC Report RSU meeting 3/16/10 defeated the MDI contract issue

by a vote of 12 to 1. Jon voted against this topic at the RSU meeting, public asked why he voted against this topic. Jon stated his vote was no due to the petition that was circulated and a variety of sources lead to his decision.

A length discussion followed and questions asked how to proceed. There is uncertainty what MDI trustees may or could do without a contact and the debt service issue for Lamoine students. Gordon made a motion, which was seconded by Bonnie, to ask the selectman for a warrant article "To consider a town warrant for tuition students". Vote was five in approval. Jon to talk with Stu about being on the agenda for selectman meeting. Jon will inform the LAC about this topic once he talks with Stu. Concern was expressed that this topic is turning young families away from Lamoine, which the debt service charge is decreasing over the next ten years, what is in the best interest for the students from Lamoine, that choice is a precious thing that we do not want to lose. Discussed that in the future the RSU may have building issues and a debt service as well. Discussed having written material with all the facts for voters to decide, committee to work on prior vote, if selectman approve.

Questions were asked of Mr. Liebow if a tuition school could decide to say no to certain sending towns and not others. Old opinion was that you could not. Recently the opinion is that if not for a discrimination reason that a receiving school may say no to a sending school and close the door.

There are bills in Augusta regarding the process to dissolve agreements for town and RSU's. Currently, a town must be involved with a RSU for at least three years and then could change relationships, but must join another organization within a certain time period. This law is pending legislation.

Budget process is occurring within the RSU, rough draft shows a 1 to 1.5 decrease for Lamoine. Interesting fact is that Lamoine is paying more for secondary education with the RSU then we did prior, due to the fact of town evaluation and supporting three schools within the RSU.

Busing was briefly discussed and there will be more information on this topic. Hopefully a cooperative agreement with MDI regarding busing as the RSU is purchasing buses for some towns in the RSU.

Currently, there are seventeen eighth graders, with eleven to thirteen who had chosen MDIHS. This number could change prior September.

Teaching Principal The RSU personnel committee has decided that school with around 100 students will have a teaching principal. Lamoine will fall into this category. Questions were asked about a job description for this position, how it would work for Lamoine, who is the committee, if Lamoine's student population were to increase would this change. Jon informed the group that a member from Lamoine Patrons group, a teacher who would be involved in the sharing of this position, a member from the LAC, (Bonnie volunteered) to serve on this search committee. This process is still in discussion but is moving along. Once a job description is available, Jon will get the LAC members a copy, also to let the LAC know the time line for this new position. Currently, Mr. Hammer is still involved with Lamoine school and continues to assist Mr. Perkins, for the remainder of the school year.

III. Open Forum Open forum in February was well received, committee would like to do this format a couple of times a year to inform the community.

IV. Next meeting May 12 at 6:30p.m. Location will be at the school.

RSU Meeting from the Web Site

Budget Meetings

3/31/10 6:30pm District Conf Room Mill Mall

4/7/10 6:30 p.m. as above

4/14/10 6:30 p.m. Beech Hill School Otis

4/21/11 6:30 p.m. Location to be announced

4/2/10 6:30 p.m. as above

RSU Board Meetings

3/30/10 6:30 p.m. Sumner High School

4/6/10 6:30 p.m. tentative special mtg. Dist Conf

4/13/10 6:30 p.m. Regular Mtg Sumner HS